

9 February 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Responsibility for "Unidentified Flying Objects"

- REFERENCE: 1. AI/SI Memorandum for the Director, 9 January 1958, "Office Responsibilities for Non-Conventional Types of Air Vehicles"
2. Special Report #11, Analysis of reports of Unidentified Aerial Objects (Project Blue Book) by AFIO, dated 5 May 1955

1. In accordance with Reference 1, this Division has assumed responsibility within OSI for Non-Conventional Types of Air Vehicles.

2. This Division proposes to handle this responsibility in the following manner:

a. Files will be maintained in ASD on incoming raw reports where, in our judgement, the subject matter may provide information bearing on foreign weapons system research or development.

b. Those reports which fit under a. above and also could conceivably provide information on foreign fundamental science developments, will be forwarded to Fundamental Sciences Area for review with a request for return to ASD for filing.

c. Those reports which do not fit a. above and which could conceivably provide information on foreign fundamental science developments will be forwarded to the Fundamental Science Area for retention or destruction.

d. Reports which fit under none of the above will be destroyed.

e. A chronological file of all OSI correspondence and action taken in connection with the United States U.F.O. program will be maintained in OSI.

f. A file of finished intelligence reports published by members of the United States intelligence community on U.F.O. will be maintained in ASD.

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3. The procedures stated in 2 a., b., c., and d. will prevent the accumulation of reports which experience and reference 2 have shown cannot be analyzed in a manner useful to OSI in carrying out its mission.

4. It has been recommended that the raw intelligence and the obsolete finished reports on U.F.O. now filed in Electronics Division be destroyed.

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CONTROL NO.	SEC. CLASS	ORIGIN	FILE NO.
30740		DEPT	VR 3-0735
DATE OF MAT.	DATE REC'D	DATE OF	CROSS REFERENCE
26 Mar 56	27 Mar 56		
SUBJECT			ROUTING
Flying Saucers			3 for 195
Attention called to 17 Mar 56 issue of French popular magazine MATCH an article re UFO. IS CIA keeping in touch with Air Force center on these things? Does it concern itself with foreign "sightings" such as above? Feel that OSI has responsibility for keeping its finger on "Mars" during period when it reaches closest point to earth for purpose of arming front office with authentication of published reports.			TIME OUT
			COURIER NO.
FORM NO. 35-1			(18-40) 4
FEB. 1952 FILE AND ROUTING SLIP			

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18 Apr 56
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director/Intelligence

SUBJECT: Flying Saucers

REFERENCE: DD/I Memo, 26 March 1956, same Subject

1. The article in the French magazine *Match* does not give sufficient information to permit classification or identification of the U. F. O. The tone of the article gives the impression that the sighting has been considerably exaggerated in order to produce a more sensational story. In most cases of foreign sightings it has not been possible to thoroughly interrogate all the people involved, so in many instances no identification has been possible. In the U. S. during the Blue Book investigation, a concentrated effort was made to track down all information available on each reported sighting; and, as a result, the percentage of unknown and insufficient information cases dropped from 25 per cent to 10 per cent.

If a thorough investigation of the U. F. O. reported in *Match* were made it would undoubtedly disclose additional data that would permit it to be classified in one of the Blue Book categories, and most likely an identification could be made just as has happened in a number of very similar cases.

2. We do maintain close liaison with the Air Force Technical Intelligence Center on reports of unidentified flying objects. This includes those reports originating in foreign countries as well as the United States.

3. It is true that on 7 September 1956 Mars will be 35.2 million miles from the earth, its nearest position in a long period. Thus, astronomers will have a rare opportunity to study Mars at close range with new electronic equipment now available. Personnel at the Naval Observatory, Washington, attach no important implications to this proximity other than the opportunity for routine scientific study. However, as you suggest, this unusual

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26 March 1956

Assistant Director/Scientific Intelligence

: Flying Saucers

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[REDACTED] my attention was called to the 17 March 1956 issue of the French popular magazine, MARCH, which had an article particularly challenging "sighting" of a MOC (mysterieux objet circulaire) in the form of a radar photograph confirmed by a visual sighting by the pilot of a scheduled airline.

1. Are we keeping in touch with the Air Force center on these matters? Does it concern itself with foreign "sightings" such as the ones mentioned?

2. I am also informed that in the coming year Mars will reach its closest point to the Earth in a long period. Outlandish as it may seem, I do feel that OSI has the responsibility to keep its finger on this general subject if for no other purpose than to arm the front line with the refutation of the more spectacular published reports.

ROBERT AMORY, JR.
Deputy Director/Intelligence

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Saucer Station Shut At Shirley Bay: 'Nothing Came of It'

The Transport Department's Flying Saucer Sighting Station at Shirley Bay is being shut.

This results from a departmental decision no longer to permit station operator Wilbert B. Smith to work on it in what Transport Deputy J. R. Baldwin termed "Government time".

Mr. Smith would be free to work on the saucer station "on his own time", reported Mr. Baldwin, and have the use of the equipment "if it is available".

The decision removes the Transport Department from the field of Flying Saucer Research, leaving this investigation to the Defence Research Board.

Reason for the decision:

"We decided that nothing so far had come out of the station's operations to merit further expenditures of Government time on it."

Whether Mr. Smith, who is the department's engineer in charge of the Broadcast and Measurement Section of the Telecommunications Division, will rebuild the station, with his own equipment, at his own home and at his own time and expense, could not be determined.

Saucer investigations, reported Mr. Baldwin, had been undertaken initially "several years ago", although it was only last summer that Mr. Smith, with the blessing of former Transport Minister Chevrier, built the station at Shirley Bay as a departmental project.

At that time, Mr. Chevrier said the Department considered it "worthwhile, for the small cost (about \$18,000) to attempt finding out if there is anything to this Flying Saucer business".